

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Clay Aurand at 9:00 a.m. on March 3, 2009, in Room 711 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Representative Lana Gordon- excused
Representative Don Hill- excused
Representative Judy Loganbill- excused
Representative Melvin Neufeld- excused

Committee staff present:

Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Reagan Cussimano, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Dale Dennis, Kansas State Department of Education
Janet Henning, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Senator John Vratil
Stevens Friend, Baldwin City Recreation Commission
Casey Doty, Winfield Recreation Commission (written testimony)

Chairman Aurand told Committee members he was again trying to schedule various committee members to "Chair" the Education Committee similar to the "Committee of the Whole" in the House chambers. He told Committee members this would be done on a seniority basis, and chairing the Education Committee on this date would be Representative Jene Vickrey.

SB 40 - At-risk education council; repeal of.

Acting Chairman Vickrey opened the hearing on **SB 40**.

Senator John Vratil spoke to Committee members as a proponent of **SB 40**. Senator Vratil told Committee members the language in **SB 40** seeks to remove from state statute outdated language relating to the At-risk Education Council established in 2005. Senator Vratil stated the statute establishing the Council set its termination date as of June 30, 2007 and therefore, requested the Committee's support of **SB 40** to remove the outdated enabling language from the state statutes. (Attachment 1)

There were no opponents to this bill.

The hearing on **SB 40** was then closed by Acting Chairman Vickrey.

SB 41 - School districts; repeal of archaic statutes relating to transfers of funds and property; disorganized districts.

Acting Chairman Vickrey opened the hearing on **SB 41**.

Senator John Vratil spoke to Committee members as a proponent of **SB 41**. Senator Vratil told Committee members that **SB 41** would repeal outdated and unnecessary provisions of law which concern certain school districts. (Attachment 2)

There were no opponents to this bill.

The hearing on **SB 41** was then closed by Acting Chairman Vickrey.

SB 161 - Recreation commissions; petty cash funds.

Acting Chairman Vickrey opened the hearing on **SB 161**.

Stevens Friend, Director, Baldwin City Recreation Commission, spoke to Committee members as a proponent of **SB 161**. Mr. Friend told Committee members that since the Recreation Commission are so closely related to school districts as far as establishment and budgeting process, he and their auditors have assumed it was permissible to establish fund accounts that permitted them to carry on their daily functions in a similar fashion. Mr. Friend stated it was his belief this is how a responsible governmental entity manages its funds to effectively handle day to day operations. (Attachment 3)

Written testimony was received from Casey Doty, Director, Arkansas City Recreation Commission as a proponent of **SB 161**. (Attachment 4)

There were no opponents to this bill.

The hearing on **SB 161** was then closed by Acting Chairman Vickrey.

Acting Chairman Vickrey then, as a point of personal privilege, acknowledged Scott Lackey, a former educator and his son's high school coach.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2009. The meeting was adjourned at 09:20 a.m.